

TELEGRAPHIC
Reports of the Press Association.

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by J. S. TUCKER, in the Clerk's Office of the District
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of Georgia.

SECRETARY SEDDON'S RESIGNATION.
RICHMOND, Feb. 8th, 1865.
 The correspondence between the President and Mr. Seddon is published in the Sentinel this morning, showing that the latter resigned his position as Secretary of War in consequence of a resolution adopted by the Virginia delegation in Congress advising legislation in the Cabinet by relieving all the present heads. Mr. Seddon says that after such an expression of opinion he could no longer fill the position with a full measure of usefulness to the President.

The President, in reply, expressed his warm personal regard and official confidence in Mr. Seddon, and discussed at considerable length the relations between the executive and legislative departments of the government. He represents the proposition as one of the rights and privileges of the Confederate Congress, in contrast with the British Parliament.

Mr. Sedgwick, in reply, expresses his concurrence in the views presented by the President, but adheres to his purpose to resign.

FROM THE UNITED STATES.—NORTHERN REPORT OF THE PEACE COMMISSION.

RICHMOND, Feb. 24, 1865.

New York papers of the 6th inst. contain voluminous telegrams from Washington relative to the result of the conference at Fortress Monroe.

A special dispatch to the Times says that Lincoln informed the Commissioners at every point that recognition was utterly out of the question. It is stated that Lincoln

Another telegram says that Mr. Stephens was the most liberal of the rebel deputation. His theory was that if we would treat with them as an independent nation that such an agreement could be had as would practically unite the North and South.

A special dispatch to the Tribune says that Stephens surpassed all his old exhibitions of shrewdness, force and tact, in putting the demands of the Confederacy. [In the midst of them, at the conclusion of one of his points, Lincoln swung forward and interrupted him, saying, that reminded me of the story of a man in Illinois. The comic actors instantly jumped up in a roar of merriment.] After the story was through, Stephens resumed and pursued to the end his statement of the terms on which he thought the rebels would be willing to stop the war. He proposed

The result of the conference is a union of all parties in vigorous prosecution of the war. Fernando Wood took the war path on Saturday. Mr. Cox, and other democrats take it to-morrow.

Gold opened in New York on Monday at 214.

Foster has been superseded by Gilmore in the command of the Department of the South.

The 17th Mass. has been ordered to the front.

The West Virginia Legislature has passed a bill abolishing slavery.

CONFEDERATE CONGRESS.

RICHMOND, Feb. 8th, 1865.

In the House, the Senate resolution of thanks to Captain Semmes was unanimously concurred in. The bill for the employment of free negroes and slaves was referred to a committee of conference. The tax bill, with the substitutes thereto, heretofore considered in secret session, was

Further discussed in committee of the whole until the hour of adjournment.

Nothing important was done in the Senate.

FROM RICHMOND.

RICHMOND, Feb. 8th, 1865.

An official dispatch from Gen. Lee says that the enemy made no advance from their position at Hatcher's Run yesterday; his skirmishers, however, were pushed forward against some points of our lines but made no attack.

FROM PETERSBURG, Va., Feb. 6th, 1865.

No fighting occurred to day, and quiet once more reigned. The army still maintains his position at Hatcher's Run, and his lines have thereby been extended but not advanced.

Gen. Sorrel was wounded in the lungs, but it is not considered mortal. Col. Hutton, of Virginia, was killed in the fight on Monday.

Our loss will not reach five hundred. The enemy's losses are estimated at twice that number. The dead have all been buried.

The enemy are erecting observatories on our right. The heavy cannonading yesterday afternoon was caused by our artillery shelling the enemy's lines. Both sides were engaged to day in strengthening their new lines.

THE YANKEE MOVE ON BRINCHVILLE.
(CHARLESTON, Feb. 8th, 1865.)

A dispatch from Gen. Wheeler, dated Home's Bridge Feb. 7th, 6.20, says: My pickets near Brinkville this morning were charged by three brigades of cavalry, which drove them beyond the village. Gibbrell's Tennessee

A dispatch from Branchville this morning says: that the enemy have made their appearance along the South Carolina Railroad beyond the Kidoist. They burned a house within one mile and a half of the railroad bridge about seven o'clock yesterday evening. Our troops were with drawn to this side of the railroad bridge, and the bridge burned.

Gen. Winder died suddenly on Monday evening of apoplexy.

CONFEDERATE CONGRESS.

RICHMOND, Feb. 9th, 1862.

The Senate adjourned to-day immediately after the journal was read.

In the House the Senate bill authorizing the appointment of a Commissary General, with the rank of Brigadier General, was passed. During the consideration of the bill Mr. Baldwin remarked that as chairman of the committee recently engaged in searching investigations, he and the whole committee arrived at the conclusion that the present Commissary General had conducted the business of his office with a degree of system, energy and foresight exhibited by few officers of the government.

Mr. Miles said that if Mr. Northrop could not command success, which was an indispensable qualification at this

The tax bill was further considered. Sending a motion to strike out one hundred per cent. additional to the present rate, a substitute of one per cent. was rejected by a large majority.

WAR MEETING IN RICHMOND.
RICHMOND, Feb. 9th, 1865.

A great war meeting was held at the African Church to-day. The building was crowded an hour before the time fixed for the meeting, and thousands were unable to gain admittance. The assemblage was addressed in stirring speeches by Senator Hunter, Sheriff, speaker of the House

An impromptu meeting was held at two o'clock, in the hall of the House of Delegates, and the address by Goode, Fustner and Baldwin of the Virginia delegation to Congress. The deportment of the people indicated their full acceptance of the continuation of the war forced upon them by the refusal of Lincoln to negotiate for peace.

The following resolutions were submitted by Mr. Shetler, and heartily applauded:

Resolved, That events which have occurred during the

MALFEASANCE IN OFFICE.
It is the duty of citizens, when an instance of mal-
versation in office occurs.

It is a duty which they owe to themselves and to their country, and which they may not omit, without justly incurring censure. The public interests are involved—

day, in a time like this, the public safety is at stake, and a patriot has no proper election as to the course he will pursue.

data on the part of the officer to whom offences are to be reported. If the one must inform, the other must listen. If one must indicate the existence of malpractice, the other must promptly investigate and punish.

Nor is the duty of either the citizen or the supervising authority, by any means, confined to such cases of offence as are capable of being presented in the form of an exact accusation, supported by full and convincing

proof. To lay down such a rule would be to grant impunity to the great majority of criminals. The purpose of an information is to institute and direct inquiry; and its just responsibilities are fully met, if it shows a *probable cause*. The magistrate commits for trial on a *reasonable suspicion*. The grand jury orders a man to stand, even for his life, on *ex parte* testimony. It is only by an authoritative imprimatur, that the evidence is

which unobscure the truth, can usually be discovered; and this investigation it is the province of Governments to undertake and to conduct on its own responsibility.—If no trial were ever ordered until absolute proof of guilt were first produced, and by some volunteer prosecutor, the courts might almost as well be abolished, and public justice degraded at once.

These principles seem obviously just, but they are not understood to be so considered in practice in some of the departments of Government. Some of the officers who are charged with the oversight of subordinates, do not take hint or ordinary information from citizens, as guides to their own observations and investigations. They require a responsible allegation and formal proof as the foundation of an inquiry. They have been led to adopt this reserve probably in consequence of the great number of complaints due to ignorance or querulousness, or originating in personal feeling. These they may always expect; but these

are not sufficient to justify them in repulsing the approaches of all citizens indiscriminately. They should, on the contrary, keep an open door for honest and well-meaning men, and receive with manifestations of thankfulness the communications which they may make for the good of the

Government may conduct without inconvenience, is often a matter of personal feud, perhaps deadly quarrel, if not actually based on a private accusation. Individuals will shrink from occupying such a position, if not from timidity, at least from that preference for quiet which

most men feel. Especially will they do this when they are not personally possessed of proof adequate to the full establishment of their opinions. Officers who place obstacles in the way of receiving information as to the malversation of their subordinates, will find indeed that they escape the annoyance of frivolous complaints, but they will succeed also in giving license to the unworthy to do pretty much as the list.

in a community circumstance as is ours. An infinite number of public agents are scattered over the country, many of them entrusted with the most delicate duties, where the observation of superiors is impossible, and where in consequence of the difficulty of detecting irregularities, there can be but little responsibility. In

such cases, the public eye and ear, must be the principal witnesses and detectives. The observations of the citizens ought to be carefully invited, and their statements respectfully listened to and duly weighed. They must not be told to be silent unless they shall choose to volunteer as positive accuser and formal prosecutor, and

has give to a public matter the aspect and character of a private altercation. An officer has no right to thrust such an alternative upon a citizen; and its effect is as we have said, to secure license and impunity to offenders, even to such as excite the most open disgust.

Richmond Sentinel.

LATE NORTHERN ITEMS.
From late files of Northern papers we take the following extracts:
GEN. WHITING AMONG THE YANKEES.
A Yankee correspondent writing from Fort Fisher to the following:

General Whiting and Col. Lamb, the officers in command of Fisher, were evidently selected for their tenacity and courage. They are both wounded, the General only seriously wounded, and Lamb also severely in hip, with a paralysis of the lower extremities. He is represented by his men as something of a lion. During the

preparatory cannonading, his men say that he mounted one of the traverses and waved his sword in defiance at our men of war. At the same instant a shell struck the other officer, and took of his head. Lamb stooped, and taking off the fallen officer's sword, and waving—both high in the air, cried out, "Come on, you Yankee

In conversation with one of the medical officers, General Whiting remarked that if he had had the control we should not have been permitted to throw up intrenchments across the peninsula. When he saw we

were allowed to intrench he regarded the capture of the fort only a question of time. "I don't see what they were about," he said, referring to the troops of Gen. Bragg. Had my guns not been dismounted, you would not have taken the works. "But we came here to take it," said the doctor, "and should have done so any

Gen. Whiting, it is said, mounted the works when he saw the first flag unfurled on the second traverse of the fort, and rallying his men, attempted to snatch back, under cover of the guns, the flag of the Union soldier. —

AID AND COMFORT.—The mere joys of bickering

which has caused some papers to drift into a regular channel of abuse of our Confederate authorities is now springing forth its legitimate fruit in the shape of comfort to the enemy. How could they but be gratified at the record some journals are pleased to make of affairs as they exist here in the Confederacy. If papers per-

ist in their abase of President Davis' Administration and continue to assert that the country is gliding along the "sloping descent to perdition," "We may expect nothing more than to see a growth of confidence in the North, and a rapid revival of the war spirit. These vapory effusions of inconsiderate scribblers are

being hailed at the North as evidences of disruption among us, and already they are believing that our cause is weakening, and that a little increase of energy on their part will throw the scale inevitably in their favor.—*Augusta Register*.

gard, in private conversation, says one of the main causes of the defeat of our army at Nashville was the want of bayonets. The bayonet is something on which a soldier can rely with confidence, and which in turn infuses confidence in the soldier.

Many years of service—brilliant and fraught with honors—have taught this distinguished officer what are the causes which give morale to an army.

A table of distances of interest just now:

- From Branchville to Charleston, sixty-miles.
- From Branchville to Kingstree, forty-five miles.
- From Branchville to Florence, one hundred and eight miles.
- From Branchville to Columbia, sixty-eight miles.

From Branchville to Augusta, seventy-five miles.
From Branchville to Wilmington, two hundred and sixteen miles.
From Branchville to Charlotte, one hundred and seventy-four miles.
From Charleston to Florence, one hundred and twenty miles.

From Wilmington to Florence, one hundred and seven miles.

COFFEE CAKES.—Take some rice that has been boiled soft, twice as much flour as rice, a little fine Indian meal and a little yeast. Mix it with water, and let it rise overnight; this will make a fine biscuit for breakfast.

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